

April 4, 1990

LB 1141
LR 239

CLERK: Mr. President, I now have an amendment to the bill by Senator Coordsen with a note you want to withdraw, withdraw both of them, Senator? Okay. I have nothing further pending to this bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The question now is the advancement of 1141. Senator Scofield, would you care to discuss the matter?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Yes, Mr. President, I am going to support this today. I don't know that I will support it on Final Reading. I have never been a big fan of coordinating commissions. I have always figured that, given my experience in higher education, that any college president worth his or her salt could outsm. t any coordinating commission out there, and probably lobby them even more effectively than we are lobbied. So we may...I am going to be very curious I guess to see what kinds of feedback we get from people out there over the weekend on these two proposals, but I think it is going to come down to us putting the filter in and filtering and taking with a grain of salt whatever it is we hear. Because I am not sure, I bet you we get all kinds of mixed messages, but if I really wanted to see nothing happen, I certainly would oppose LR 239, and I might, as a screen, smoke screen, perhaps support 1141. I am not convinced we can really get at what we want to get at with 1141. I am not at all convinced of that, but I am going to listen...I am going to think this over over the weekend, I guess, and, well, if we don't have the votes to do LR 239, we don't have the votes, and maybe 1141 is better than nothing. I am not at all convinced of that given the skepticism I bring to this whole process having been on both sides of it and having been on the Appropriations Committee. So I guess I ask you to mull over this the same as I am going to do over the weekend and listen to hat people say, but not without a pretty high level of skepticism of who you are hearing from. And once again I would reiterate that I don't think I read the same things into the responses from the regent that Senator Baack said, and I will bet you that we should not proceed on the assumption that he was speaking for the regents because I just pulled this little handout that Ron Withem gave us out of my trash and I think he makes it pretty clear that he wasn't speaking for the regents when he said he would support coordination. So I think it is the buck stops here, folks. We have got Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, I guess, to mull over...I think we are all, with a few exceptions, determined to get somewhere down the road in terms of coordination on higher education, and I guess